

BELIEVE

Believe in Our Schools Fund

September 14, 2004

Donor Advisor
Sally Michel

Dear Civic Leader:

Baltimore City's public schools face daunting challenges. Recent financial assistance from the City has allowed the school system to overcome a crisis that threatened to pull the rug out from under 4+ years of improved academic achievement - yet much more needs to be done.

For too long our children have studied in dreary, often dirty schools, where toilets lack privacy, playgrounds fill with trash, and clouded windows fail to let the sun shine in. These conditions are unacceptable and convey to our children that we do not care about them or the environment in which they learn. Together we can change this. Through Mayor Martin O'Malley's ***Believe in Our Schools Campaign***, we are marshalling community-wide support for immediately achievable facilities improvements as an important step in our collective effort to revitalize Baltimore City's public schools.

To date, the Campaign, with the help of more than 120 corporate and community partners, and over 4,600 volunteers, has succeeded in making facilities improvements, valued in excess of \$4 million to 138 Baltimore City public schools. Please join Struever Bros. Eccles and Rouse, Inc., Sherwin-Williams, DAP Inc., CitiFinancial, Lockhart Vaughan Foundation, Meyerhoff Family Charitable Funds, Baltimore's Building Trade Unions and many other business and community partners by signing on to help. For more information on how to help, please see the attached campaign overview.

Thank you for your consideration. We look forward to working with you as we work to transform Baltimore's schools into vibrant places, where teachers flock to teach and children hasten to learn.

Sally Michel
Fund Donor Advisor

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